

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

This amendment is in response to the Office action dated January 26, 2005.

By the present amendment, the original claims (which include both the elected and non-elected claims), have been canceled without prejudice to the applicants' right to file either a continuation application directed to the elected claims, or a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims. The newly presented claims 22-43 are submitted to replace the elected claims 1, 3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 16 and 18, and particularly to clarify the invention defined therein. With regard to this, it is noted that the newly submitted claims 22-43 are directed to "a method of performing maintenance of an inverter" in order to clarify the claim language in response to the objection to the claim language set forth in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. As noted in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the original elected claims were directed to an inverter maintenance system. However, notwithstanding the preambles of the claims regarding an inverter maintenance system, the bodies of the various claims actually set forth method steps. Therefore, in order to clarify this, the newly submitted claims 22-43 are presented in method format, and are directed to steps similar to those set forth in the elected claims 1, 3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 16 and 18. Therefore, reconsideration and removal of the objection to the original claim language set forth in paragraph 4 of the Office Action is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration and removal of the objection to the drawings is also respectfully requested. In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, it is stated that "the drawings are objected to because proper legends are missing." However, no specific figures are referred to so it is not clear from this objection as to what exact

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figures are regarded as missing appropriate legends. In applicants review of the drawings, it appears that appropriate legends are supplied, either in terms of English language legends and/or appropriate numerals which are verbally described in the Specification. It is applicants understanding that, in recent years, it is generally the preference of the USPTO to minimize the written legends identifying various elements, in favor of simply identifying them with numerals which can be readily correlated to the Specification. Thus, in Fig. 1 rather than identifying the inverter with a verbal label, it is simply identified with the numeral "1." The same can be said for the portable telephone 2, the Web server 6 etc., In addition, the drawings themselves tend to provide visual indications of the elements involved. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the drawings in this application are fully in compliance with the rules for drawing practice.

Notwithstanding the above comments, if there are particular elements in the drawings which the Examiner would like to have identified with verbal legends, in addition to the numerical identification, applicants would be glad to comply if these particular elements are identified. Therefore, the Examiner is invited to either contact the undersigned attorney by way of telephone to discuss which elements the Examiner would like to be further labeled, or to present such a request and identification of specific elements and figures in the next Office Action.

Before turning to the merits of the newly submitted claims, the following brief description of the invention is provided for the Examiner's convenience.

As discussed on page 10, line 21 *et seq.*, one problem which often occurs with devices utilizing an inverter is that such devices are remotely located. More specifically, although the invention is not limited only to this, this typical problem is described on page 10, line 20 *et seq.*, as follows:

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"At this time, in Fig. 1, the following assumption is made. That is, while an inverter 1 is separated far from a base station (not shown) of a portable telephone, or is shielded by a certain electromagnetic barrier, this inverter 1 is installed at such a place that a telephone communication cannot be established by using the portable telephone."

As such, conventional techniques for remote maintenance, which rely on a connection to a base station, cannot be used in such an instance.

Accordingly, in the present invention, when the inverter has a problem, a cell phone, e.g., identified (with numeral 2) is first connected to the inverter to read the necessary information from the inverter both regarding parameters of the inverter and the abnormality (e.g., see page 12, line 18 *et seq.* and Fig. 10). As shown in Fig. 11, a failure recovery screen can be generated on the portable telephone screen, as described on page 13, line 1. This communication between the portable phone 2 and the inverter 1 can be done without the need for the portable phone to be connected to the user support server.

Subsequently, as described on page 13, line 6, *et seq.*, the portable phone is removed from the inverter and taken to a location where it can access a user support server (such as identified by numeral 3 in Fig. 1). At that time, the portable phone 2 provides the user support server 3 with the information regarding the abnormality in the inverter. The support server 3 can then analyze this information and retrieve the necessary troubleshooting information regarding it (see page 15, line 18 *et seq.*). The portable telephone 2 can then be reconnected to the inverter to provide the necessary troubleshooting information relative to the particular abnormality in question (e.g., see page 16, line 10 *et seq.* as well as Fig. 6).

Reconsideration and allowance of the newly submitted claims 22-43 over the cited prior art of EP 1122876 is respectfully requested. With regard to this, it is noted that each of the noted new independent claims 22 and 33 specifically defines

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an arrangement in which a portable telephone is able to communicate with an inverter through a first interface and with a user support server through a second interface. In addition, each of the independent claims 22 and 33 defines that the portable telephone receives the abnormal information from the inverter using the first interface and transmits this abnormal information from the portable telephone to the user support server using the second interface. Both claims also define that the user support server analyzes the abnormal information to create troubleshooting information which is then transmitted to the portable telephone. Still further, each of the independent claims 22 and 33 specifically defines that the inverter is operated from the portable telephone system, using the first interface, to solve the abnormal condition using the troubleshooting information "without said portable telephone being in communication with the user support server through the second interface."

In other words, it is clearly set forth in both the independent claims 22 and 33 that the actual correction of the abnormality of the inverter is accomplished with the portable telephone without the portable telephone itself being connected with the user support server.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no suggestion whatsoever for this combination of features in EP 1122876, particularly with regard to the correction of the problem with the inverter using the portable telephone without the portable telephone being connected to the user support server. In EP 1122876, it is necessary for the portable telephone to be connected with a server via the internet while it is also connected to the inverter. In other words, the portable telephone in EP 1122876 simply serves as a type of "connection line" which connects the inverter with the server or a personal computer connected to the server in order to communicate between the inverter and the server. Therefore, the arrangement of

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EP 1122876 is completely different than the method set forth in the present claims 22-43. In addition, it is not at all capable of providing the advantages of being able to fix an abnormal condition of an inverter in a situation where the inverter is located in a location where telephone communication cannot be established using a portable telephone. For the reasons set forth above, reconsideration and removal of the rejection of the independent claims 22 and 33, based on EP 1122876 is respectfully requested.

With regard to claim 33, it is noted that this independent claim even further defines the distinctions over the cited prior art to EP 1122876. More specifically, new independent claim 33 particularly sets forth the situation that the inverter is located in a location where telephone communication cannot be established using the portable telephone (as per page 10, line 25 and 26 of the Specification). With regard to this, specific steps are set forth for, initially, connecting the portable telephone with the inverter so that information can be provided to the portable telephone, without the portable telephone being in communication with the user support server through the second interface. Claim 33 then goes on to specify that the portable telephone is disconnected from the inverter and transmits the abnormal information to the user support server via the second interface. Claim 33 also defines that the portable telephone is then reconnected with the inverter for the actual repair operation. Clearly these steps of connection, disconnecting and reconnecting the portable telephone to the inverter are completely lacking from EP 1122876 (particularly when considered in conjunction with the other features defined in claim 33, as discussed above concerning claim 22). Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of independent claim 33 is also respectfully requested for these additional reasons as well.

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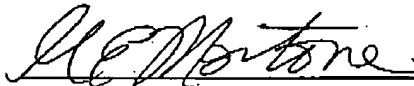
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Consideration and allowance of the newly submitted dependent claims 23-32 and 34-43 is also respectfully requested. These claims define even further features regarding distinctions over the cited EP 1122876 reference, particularly when considered in light of the overall combinations defined by these claims taken in conjunction with their respective parent claims 22 and 33. It is respectfully submitted that EP 1122876 completely lacks any suggestion for these overall combinations defined by the dependent claims. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of the dependent claims 23-32 and 34-43 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP (referencing Attorney Docket No. 500.40586X00), and please credit any overpayment of fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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